

A DIRECTION FOR ADVENTVRERS

With small stock to get two for one,
and good land freely:

And for Gentlemen, and all Servants, Labourers, and
Artificers to live plentifully.

And the true Description of the healthiest, pleasantest, and richest
plantation of new *Albion*, in North *Virginia*, proved by thirteen witnesses.

TOGETHER WITH,

A Letter from Master *Robert Evelyn*, that lived there many
yeares, shewing the particularities, and excellency thereof.

*With a brieve of the charge of victuall, and necessaries, to transports
and buy stocke for each Planter, or Labourer, there to get his
Master 50l. per Annum, or more in twelvetrades, and
at 10. l. charges only a man.*



Printed in the yeare, 1641.



Printed in the year 1844.

The true description of the healthiest, pleasantest, and
richest plantation of new *Albion* in *North Virginia*,
proved by 13 Witnesses.

WHereas that part of *America*, or *North Virginia*, lying about 39 degrees at *Delaware Bay* called the Province of new *Albion*, is situate in the best, and same temper, and as *Italy*, betweene too cold *Germany*, and too hot *Barbary*, so this lying just midway betweene new *England* 200 miles *North*, and *Virginia* 150 miles *South*, where now are settled 10000 English and 140 ships in trade, is freed from the extreame cold and barrenesse of the one, and heat and agnith *Marshes* of the other, and is like *Lumbardy*, and a rich fat soyle plaine, and having 18 *Rivers* on the maine land, 17 great *Isles*, and partaketh of the healthiest ayre and most excellent commodities of *Europe*, and replenished with the goodliest woods of *Oakes* and all *Timber* for ships and *Masts*, *Mulberries* for silke, sweet *Cypres*, *Cedars*, *Pines* and *Perres*, 4 sorts of *Grapes* for wine, and *Raisins* and with the greatest variety of choyce fruits, Fish and Fowle, stored with all sorts of Corne yeelding 5, 7. and 10. quarters an Acre: Silkegras, salt, good Mines and Diers ware, 5 sorts of *Deere*, *Buffes* and huge *Elkes* to plow and worke, all bringing 3 young at once: The Vplands covered many moneths with berries, rootes Chestnuts, Walnuts, Beach and Oake Mast to feed them Hogs and Turkeys, 500 in a Flock, and having neere the Colony of *Manitese* 400000 Acres of plaine mead land and meere levell to be sowed and fludded by that river for Corne, Rice, Rapes, flax, and hemp. After 11 yeares trading and discovery there and tryall made, is begunne to be planted and stored by the Governour and Company of new *Albion* consisting of 15 Lords, Barroners, Knights and Marchants, who for the true informing of themselves, their friends, Adventurers, and Partners by Residents and Traders there foure severall yeares out of their Journall bookes, namely by Captaine Browne a ship Master, and Master *Stafford* his Mate, and by Captaine *Clayborne* 14 yeares there trading, and *Constantine* his *Indian* there born and bred, and by Master *Robert Evelin* 4 yeares there; yet by eight of their hands subscribed and enrolled doe testifie this to bee the true state of the Country, of the Land, and *Delaware Bay* or *Charles River*, which is further witnessed by Captaine *Smith* and other bookes of *Virginia* and by new *Englands* Prospect, New Canaan, Captaine *Powells* map, and other description of new *England*.

Captaine Browne.

Captaine Clayborne.

Robert Evelin.

Stafford.

Constantine.

Stratton.

Thomas White.

Richard Buckham.

Christof: Thomas.

Edward Monmouth.

Tenis Palee.

Edward Rhodes.

Peter Rixford.

Master Evelins letter.

Good Madam:

Sir Edmund persisting still in his noble purpose to goe on with his plantation in *Delaware* or *Charles River*. just midway between *New England* & *Virginia*. wherewith my Vncle Young, and I severall yeares resided, hath often informed himselfe, both of mee, and Master *Siraton*, as I perceive by the hands subscribed of *Eward Monmouth*, *Tenis Pale* and as Master *Buckham*, Master *White*, and other Ship masters, and Saylor, whose hands I know and it to be true that there lived and traded with mee, is sufficiently instructed of the state of the Country, and people there, and I should very gladly according to his desire have waited on you into *Hampshire* to have informed your Ladyship in person, had not I next weeke bene passing to *Virginia*. But neverthelesse to satisfie you of the truth, I thought good to write unto you my knowledge, and first to describe you from the *North* side of *Delaware* unto *Hudsons River*, in Sir Edmunds Patent, called new *Albion*, which lyeth just betweene *New England* and *Maryland*, and that Ocean Sea I take it to bee about 160 miles, I find some broken land, Isles and Inlets, and many small Isles at *Egabay*: But going to *Delaware Bay* by *Cape May* which is 24 miles at most, and is as I understand very well set out, and printed in Captaine *Powells* Mappe of new *England*, done as is told me by a draught I gave to M. *Daniell* the plotmaker, which Sir Edmund saith you have at home on that *North* side about five miles within a Port, or Rode for any Ships call. the Nook, and within it lyeth the King of *Kechemeches*, having as I suppose, about 50 men: and 12 leagues higher a little above the Bay and Bar is the River of *Manteses* which hath 20 miles on *Charles River* and 30 miles running up a faire navigable deepe River all a flat levell of rich fresh and fat Blacke *Mashe* mould, which I thinke to bee 300000 acres, In this Sir Edmund intendeth as he saith to settle, and there the King of *Manteses* hath about 100 Bow men, next above about 6 leagues higher is a faire deepe river 12 miles navigable, where is *Free-stone*, and there over against is the King of *Sikoneses*, and next is a *Asomocchas* river & King with 100 men, and next is *Erimoneck* a King of 40 men where we late down, and 5 miles above is the King of *Ramcocke* with a 100 men, and 4 miles higher the King of *Axion* with 200 men, and next to him 10. leagues overland an Inland King of *Calcesar* with 150. men, and then there is in the middle of *Charles-river* two faire wooddy Isles, very pleasant, and fit for Parks. the one of a thousand acres, the other of fowerteen hundred, or thereabout. And six leagues higher, neare a Creek called *Moslian*, the King having two hundred men. And then wee come to the *Falls*, made by a Rocke of Lime-stone, as I suppose it is about sixty and five leagues from the Sea, neare to which is an Isle fit for a Citie, all materials there to build: & above, the River faire and navigable, as the Indians informe me, for I went but ten miles higher. I doe account all the Indians to be eight hundred, and are in severall factions, and warre against the *Sasque Hanock*, and are all extream fearfull of a Gun. naked and unarmed against our shot, swords, and pikes. I had some bickering with some of hem, and they are of so little esteeme, as I durst with fiftene men sit downe, or trade

in

in despite of them, and since my return 18 Swedes are settled there, and so sometime six Dutch doe in a boat trade without feare of them.

I saw there an infinite quantitie of Bustards, Swans, Geese; and Fowle covering the shoares, as within the like multitude of Pigeons, and store of Turkies, of which I tryed one to weigh fourty and six pounds. There is much variety and plenty of delicate fresh and sea-fish and shell-fish, and Whales or Grampus: Elkes, Deere that bring three young at a time, and the Woods bestrewed many moneths with Chest-nuts, Wall-nuts, and Mast of severall sorts to feed them and Hoggs, that would increase exceedingly. There the barren grounds have fower kindes of Grapes, and many Mulberries, with Ash, Elms, and the tallest and greatest Pines and Pitch-trees that I have seen. There are Cedars, Cypressse, and Sassafras, with wilde fruits, Peares, wilde Cherries, Pine-apples, and the daintie Parsemenas. And there is no question but Almonds, and other fruits of Spaine will prosper, as in Virginia. And (which is a good comfort) in fower & twenty houres you may send or go by sea to New-England or Virginia, with a faire winde, you may have Cattle, and from the Indians 2000. barrels of Corne, at twelve-pence a bushell in truck, so as Victuals are there cheaper and better, then to be transported: Neyther doe I conceive any great need of a Fort or Charge, where there is no enemy.

If *Sir Edmund* will bring with him three hundred men or more, there is no doubt but hee may doe very well and grow rich, for it is a most pure healthfull ayre, & such pure wholesome Springs, Rivers, and Waters, as are delightfull, of a Desart, as can be seene, with so many varieties of severall flowers, trees, and Forrests for Swine. So many faire risings and prospects, all green and verdant: and Mary-land a good friend and neighbour, in foure an twenty howers ready to comfort and supply.

And truly I beleieve, my Lord of *Baltamore* will be glad of *Sir Edmunds* Plantation and assistance against any enemy or bad neighbour. And if *Sir Edmund* employ some men to sow Flax, Hemp and Rapes in those rich Marishes, or build ships, & make Pipe-staves, and load some ships with these wares, or Fish from the Northward, hee may have any money, ware, or Company brought him by his owne ships, or the ships of Virginia or New-England all the yeare.

And because you are of the Noble House of the *Pawletts*, and as I am informed, desire to lead many of your friends and kindred thither, whom as I honour, I desire to serve, I shall intreat you to beleieve me as a Gentleman and Christian, I write you nothing but the truth, and hope there to take opportunity in due season, to visit you and doe all the good offices in Virginia, my place or friends can serve you in.

And thus tending my service, I rest

Madams

Your Ladiships most humble faithfull Servant

Rob: Evelin.

Provisions for each man and the charge from London.

1. Canvas, or linnen Clothes, Shooes, Hats, &c. costing here foure pound for two men to buy Cowes, Goats, and hogs in Virginia, Terfira Islands, or Ireland, which there yeelds six pound, and will buy one Cow, two Goats, two Sowes, which for each man comes to 2.l. 0. 0.

2. Freight for a Passenger, and his halfe Tonne of provisions and Toolcs. 1.l. 10. 0.

3. Viſtualls till his owne ſtock and Croppe, maintain him for ſeven monethes. 3.l. 10. 0.

That is, Peaſe, Oatemeale, and Aquavite, 7.s. five buſhells of meale, of which two to be baked into Biſkets, and five buſhells of Mault, ſome muſt be ground and brewed for the voyage both 1.l. 10.s. a hundred of beefe, and Pork, 1.l. 2.s. two buſhells of roots 2.s. ſalt fiſh, 2.s. Caſk to carry provision 5.s. five pound of Butter. 2.s.

4. One hogſhead of eares of Corne, Garden ſeeds, Hemp and linſeed with Caſke. 0. 16. 0.

5. Armes (viz.) a ſword, Calliver or long Piſtoll, Pike head: ſix pound of powder, ten pound of ſhor, half an old flight armour, that is, two to one Armour. 0. 19. 5. 0.

6. Tools, a ſpade, Axe, and ſhovell 5.s. Iron, and ſteele to make and mend more. and two hundred of nailes. 5.s. 0. 10. 5. 0.

7. Guns and Powder for the Fort, that is to every, 50. foure Murtherers

8. 1. a barrell of powder, 4.l. 10.s. That is to each man, 5.s.

Bed and ſheets of canvas to be filled with huls each man, 10.s.

Summe totall. 10.l. 0. 0.

Each Adventurer of twenty or fifty men muſt provide houſhold neceſſaries, as Irons, and chaines for a draw-bridge, two Mares or horſes to breed or ride on, which with hay, oates, and water, will for foure pound a peece, be transported; Pots, Pans, diſhes, Iron for a Cart and Plow, Chaines, Sirthes, and Sickels, Nets, lines, and hookes. A Sayle for a fiſhing Shallop of three tonne, and hemp to imploy his people in making them, as with hayre and Canvas for quilts, aſwell on ſhipboard, as demurring at the Sea port, as with locks, keyes, bolts, and glaſs Caſements for his houſe. And generally ſit Implements for the worke or trade he intends.

1. Here by bringing good labourers, and tradſemen, the provident planters may doe well by giving ſhares or double wages when each man may earne his 6. nay 10. and 12 ſhillings a day.

2. For here the Ship-carpenters ten men a day will build a tun of ſhipping

as in *England*, which with masts and yeardes there taken is here, and there wort 3 l. a tun and yet here, and there is built at 1 l. a tun wages, which is 6 s. a dayes worke, having the timber without money.

3. Here in 24. dayes they make a thousand of Pipe-staves, worth here seven pound, and at the *Canaries* twenty pound a thousand, and so get seven shillings a dayes work.

4. Here in making Iron they save 5 l. a tun in the price of wood, and 3 l. more in digging the Iron mine, and saving land carriage of it, and of the Charcole, for mine is taken on the Sea beach, and wood floated downe the Rivers, and so each man earnes 5 s. 10 d. a day, Iron valued at 12 l. per tun.

5. Here the constant trade of 350. ships, and 7000. men a fishing begin to leave cold *Newfoundland* small fish, and late taken, when this is before their two moneths at the market, 100. fish here yeelds 4 quintales, there scarce one, and here is fish all the year, there but only in the 4 warm months, so as for 9 weekes worke each man above his diet, passage, and returne, gets 20 l. and 22 l. a man, and herein dried Base, in Sturgeon, in pressed Mackrell, Herings, and Pilchers, is got, as well as in Cod-fish 6 s. and 8 s. a day. And this returns ready French and Spanish coyne.

6. Here the glorious ripening Sun as warme as *Italy* or *Spain* brings rare fruits, wines, and such store of Anniseed, and Licoras as well as Bay-salt made without boyling, onely in pannes with the Sunne, that each labourer maketh 6 bushels a day worth in these three 12 s. a day, and this mayden soyle, so comforted with the Suns glittering beams, and being digged, and set with the Indian Wheate, and their Beanes, and Pease; with 40 s. charge in 40 daies worke with seede, yeelds 10 quarters an acre, the same Wheat being 10 times as big, and as weighty as ours; beside Potatoes, woad, Madder and Tobacco will yeeld halfe a tun of Flax, and a tun of Hempe; worth 12 l. an acre: and 6 s. a daies worke.

7. Here as in *Province* in *France* Walnut-Milke, or Oyle ground and pressed will yeeld the gatherer ten gallons, and 10 s. a daies worke.

8. Here the land lyeth covered 7 months with Beech, and Oke Mast, Walnuts, and Chestnuts, and 3 moneths with Groundnuts; and wild Pease; and Fetches yeerely so as sixty Hogs for one; and a hundred Turkeyes; Partridges, Hethpoults; and tame Poultry eating their fill, for one is an ordinary increase.

9. Here the Sope, and Potashes, men paying in *England* 12 d. a bushell; and 4 d. carriage for ashes; and 20 l. a tun for Potashes make them for a quarter and lesse; and get 8 s. a dayes worke, by cutting, reeking, and burning whole plaines of Ferne; Brambles, and wild Vines being thrice as strong as Woodashes.

Here

Here a ship may go; and returne in four moneths laded and comfortably see their freinds; making three voyages a yeer, in a healthy ayre freed from enemies, and Turks, and get two for on each voyage: that is fix for one of that stocke and proceed in a yeer.

11. Here the kind Gentleman that in *England* doth not live without debts, mortgages, suretiship, Law suits, & troubles, may here settle, and avoyd bad company and tempting occasions, and live in plenty, and variety of all sports, hunting Deer, hauking Foule, fishing, and many more sports, and sorts of game as with dainty fruits; and lay up his spare rents.

12. Here the souldier, and Gentlemen wanting employment, and not bred to labour without going to wars to kill Christians, for 5 s. a weeke in the mouth of the roaring Canon or in a seige threatned with famine, and pestilence: but with a quilt sute arrow prooffe, and a light *Albion* gunsphear: and but ten together against a few naked saluages may like a devout Apostolique souldier with sword, and the word to civilize, and convert them to be his Majesties lieges, and by trading with them, for Furs get his ten shillings a day and at home intermixing sport, and pleasure, with profit, store his Parkes with Elkes, and fallow Deere, and are fit to ride, milke or draw, the first as big as Oxen, and bringing three a yeete, and with hares a yard long, and with five hundred Turkeys in a flock got by nets, in stalking, and get his five shillings a day at least.

All Adventurers of 500 l. to bring 50 men, shall have 5000 Acres and a Mannor with Royalties at 5 s. Rent, and whosoever is willing so to transport himselfe or servant at 10 l. a man, shall for each man have 100 Acres freely granted for ever and at *Stokes Bay near Portsmouth the 10th month next with the Countess* may be instructed how in 3. weekes to passe, and in 20 dayes to get fit Servants and Artificers for wages, Diet. and clothes, and Apprentices according to the 3. Statutes: 5 Eliz. All which after 5 yeeres service, are to have 31. Acres of free land and some stocke and bee freeholders,

St Edmund of London in 1608 had land next to the place

FINIS.

A 1641 X
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at Stokes bay neere Portsmouth the 10th
month next the

See Edmund Plowden in the lane next
door to the